## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

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L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

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R 130010Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, RO

SUBJECT:MTN: ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

COMMITTEE

REF: BUCHAREST 0532

1. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S REPORTING OF ROMANIAN VIEWS ON MTN (REFTEL). ALTHOUGH WE SHARE DESIRE THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS BE MADE THIS YEAR, EMBASSY MAY WISH POINT OUT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROMANIANS THAT OUR NEGOTIATING MANDATE (I.E. THE TRADE ACT

OF 1974) PROVIDES A FIVE YEAR AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR THE MODIFICATION OR CONTINUANCE OF DUTIES AND FOR THE REDUCTION, ELIMINATION OR HARMONIZATION OF NON-TARIFF BARRIERS. THIS AUTHORITY WILL NOT EXPIRE UNTIL JANUARY 3, 1980 AND WILL NOT HAVE TO BE RENEWED IN THE INTERIM.

2. ROMANIAN IMPRESSION THAT MANDATES EXPIRE AT END OF 1975 APPARENTLY ARISES FROM STATEMENT IN TOKYO DECLARATION THAT QUOTE MINISTERS INTEND THAT THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS BE CONCLUDED IN 1975. UNQUOTE TOKYO DECLARATION, HOWEVER IS NOT A NEGOTIATING MANDATE NOR DOES THIS SENTENCE SET AN OBLIGATORY DEADLINE FOR CONCLUSION OF THE MTN. INDEED, SUCH A GOAL AT THIS TIME WOULD BE UNREALISTIC. TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE NO COUNTRY

PARTICIPATING IN MTN HAS A MANDATE WHICH IS KEYED TO TERMINATE OR WHICH REQUIRES RENEWAL AT OR BEFORE THE END OF 1975.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD STRESS THAT, CONTRARY TO IMPLICATION OF VIEWS OF MFA OFFICIALS (REFTEL, PARA 3), THERE ARE PERSUASIVE ECONOMIC GROUNDS FOR DOUBTING THAT CONCESSIONS BY STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES (STC'S) ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO TARIFFS AND CERTAIN NTB'S WOULD PROVIDE EQUIVALENCE FOR CONCESSIONS EXTENDED BY MARKET-ECONOMY COUNTRIES. WHILE ECONOMIC STRUCTURES VARY FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, THE ROLE OF STC'S TARIFFS APPEARS GENERALLY TO BE LIMITED BY THE INFLUENCE OF PLANNING, AND THE TRADE IMPACT OF AGREED BINDINGS IS LIABLE TO NULLIFICATION THROUGH SHIFTS IN PLANNING PRIORITIES, ALTERATION OF REGULATIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN EXCHANGE, OR UNPUBLICIZED REGULATIONS AND EXERCISE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION. AS GLITMAN TOLD PETRESCOU AND BALTAZAR IN GENEVA NOVEMBER 21, AND ENDERS AND GLITMAN TOLD AMB. BOGDAN JANUARY 10, WE DO NOT WISH TO DEAL WITH THESE MATTERS IDEOLOGICALLY BUT RATHER TO WORK OUT COOPERATIVELY ON A PRACTICAL BASIS AN APPROACH THAT WILL PROVIDE TRUE EQUIVALENCE OF ADVANTAGES IN OUR EXCHANGE OF CONCESSIONS. WE WILL, OF COURSE, BE PREPARED TO TAKE ROMANIA'S STATUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY INTO ACCOUNT. INGERSOLL

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NNN		

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS

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To: BUCHAREST

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